STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Arms exports by India

*210. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India exports any arms to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and to which countries the arms are exported;

(c) whether Government propose to set up an arms export corporation aimed at gearing up the country's armaments industry; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Limited export of arms, surplus to our requirements, has been undertaken to friendly countries.

(b) Details regarding export of arms of a classified nature and hence cannot be divulged.

(c) and (d) A decision regarding the establishment of a suitable agency for the promotion of export of defence stores is under consideration.

Activising the Gandhi Bhawans in the Universities

*211. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Human Resource Development propose to advise the University Grants Commission to activise the Gandhi Bhawans in various Universities, with liberal financial grants for organising research and holding International Seminars in view of the growing importance of Gandhian thought, specially of non-violence in the international context; and

(b) whether Government also propose to initiate an International Gandhian Peace Award for honouring outstanding personalities for their effective contribution in promoting peace and non-violence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) University Grants Commission has been providing financial assistance to Gandhi Bhawans to strengthen their administrative structure and to promote Gandhian thought and value. UGC has also been providing financial assistance to Universities for running courses at different levels on Gandhian studies and for research. The Commission proposes to continue to provide such assistance during the Eighth Five Year Plan also.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

Women Development Corporations in Bihar and U.P.

*212. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up Women Development Corporations in the rural areas of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh for the welfare of women; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) There is a Central Government scheme for providing assistance to State Governments for setting up of Women Development Corporations to generate activities among women such as identification